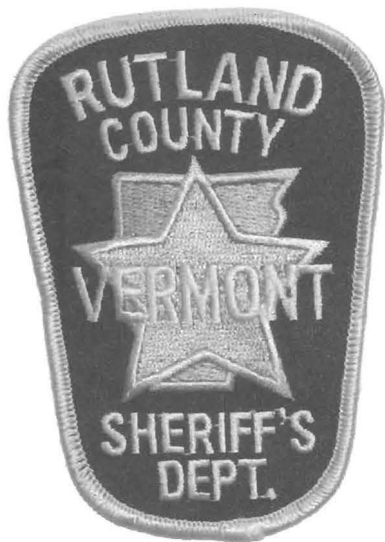


RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Quarterly

VOLUME 38 No. 1

2008

**A History of the Rutland County
Sheriff's Department, Rutland,
Vermont 1781-2007
and
The Rutland City Police
Department, Rutland, Vermont
1892-2007**



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

About the Author



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

Paul J. Crossman, Jr. is a Rutland native. He received his education at Rutland High School and the University of Vermont. He retired from General Electric Company in 1990 after 36 years service as an electrical engineer. He is a Vermont licensed professional engineer (Electrical) and a former Vermont licensed private investigator. Paul also volunteers at Rutland Regional Medical Center, and as an usher at the Paramount Theatre. He has written previous *Quarterlies* for the Rutland Historical Society entitled "Pine Hill Stone Crusher and Early Stone Crushing Practices in Vermont 1887-1932" (Vol. 28 No. 2), "Development of Rocky Pond Recreational Area, Rutland, Vermont 1952-1954" (Vol. 29, No. 1), "Rutland Vermont Jails 1784-2000" (Vol. 30 No. 1), "A History of the Paramount Theatre – Rutland, Vermont 1914-2004" (Vol. 34 No. 3) and "A History of The Richardson Building 36-40 Center Street Rutland, Vermont" (Vol. 37 No. 1).

Introduction

A history of the Rutland City Police Department and Rutland County Sheriff's Department is chronicled in this publication. The information was derived primarily from the Rutland City Annual Reports (1891-2007) as well as personal interviews with several retired and active police officers. By 1781, some 20 years after Rutland Town was chartered, many persons were failing to pay their property taxes and other bills, thereby facing imprisonment. The need for a sheriff to enforce payment or make arrests was mandated. Over a period of 226 years Rutland County has had 22 sheriffs. Prior to November 1892 the Rutland Village Police Department with 11 commissioned officers, equipped with horse-drawn carriages, maintained law and order in the village. The Rutland City Police Department was officially established when Rutland became incorporated as a city on 19 November 1892. During the 115 years since that time Rutland City has been served by 21 Police Chiefs.

The *Quarterly* is published by the Rutland Historical Society, 96 Center Street, Rutland VT 05701-4023. Co-editors: Jim Davidson and Jacob Sherman. Copies are \$2 each plus \$1 per order. Membership in the Society includes a subscription to the *Quarterly* and the *Newsletter*. Copyright © 2008 The Rutland Historical Society, Inc. ISSN 0748-2493.

Rutland County Sheriff's Department (1781-2007)

By Paul J. Crossman, Jr.

Abraham Ives was the first sheriff of record in Rutland County, Vermont. He was born in Wallingford, CT in 1741 and settled his family in the Town of Wallingford of the "New Hampshire Grants" (Vermont) in the early 1770s. He was first elected Wallingford Town Representative in 1779, and again in 1783. His most important public office, however, was as Rutland County Sheriff. He served four one year terms from 1781-1785, a job that required extensive paperwork and a good deal of travel over poor roads. In those years, Rutland County extended from the northern boundaries of Rupert, Dorset, and Peru to the Canadian border, containing at least ninety of the towns of present-day Vermont. All of these towns were chartered, either by New Hampshire or Vermont, but many were unorganized and sparsely settled. Part of Ives' responsibility was collecting the state property tax of 1783. Under the Debtor's Prison Law, many persons faced imprisonment because they could not meet their creditors' demands or pay their taxes. More property changed hands as a result of irregularities in Ives' transactions than ever before or since in Vermont's history. Ives and his agents had a reputation for being dishonest. Even after his term as sheriff ended in October of 1785, Ives found himself in a position so untenable that he fled to Wallingford, CT. The Debtor's Prison was abolished in 1833.

Roy H. Leonard (1892-1955) was born in Pawlet, VT in 1892. He was a WWI veteran, served as a member of the Vermont National Guard and as a Reserve Officer for 10 years. From 1925 to 1934 he was Chief of Police for Rutland City. He resigned in 1935 and accepted an appointment with the Attorney General's Office as a State Investigator. In 1936 Leonard was elected as Rutland County Sheriff and served for three terms until 1942. While Sheriff, he figured in the investigation of several homicide cases in which the state obtained convictions. He was president of the Vermont Sheriff's Association in 1938 and 1939. He was one of a three-member committee that organized the Rutland Post of the American Legion. He was also an exalted ruler of the Rutland Elks Lodge. Leonard took pride in the accomplishments of his office during his three terms of honest, efficient and courteous service to the people of Rutland County. He was one of the state's best-known law officers in 1942 when

he went into semi-retirement. Suffering from a lung ailment, Leonard was advised to move to a warmer climate. He then relocated to Florida with his wife where he died on 19 March 1955 at the age of 63.

Geno N. Franzoni (1904-1955) was born in New York City on 4 May 1904. He was a law enforcement officer for 20 years having served eight years as a Rutland City patrolman and seven terms as a Rutland County Sheriff from 1943 to 1955. He had a wide acquaintance throughout the state and a solid reputation as a peace officer. During his term of office, and prior to establishment of the Vermont State Police in 1947, Franzoni had to cope with the most dangerous law outbreaks in this area. He apprehended several men subsequently convicted of murder, solved many jail breaks, and was called in for hundreds of lesser incidents. Among the murderers was Ronald Watson who was executed for fatally knifing Henry Teelon, Rutland taxicab driver, at Chittenden on 24 December 1945. Watson was arrested by Sheriff Franzoni. Franzoni also captured Harold Frotten, alleged slayer of Robert Stratton of Woodford on 21 October 1944. Frotten, who had been incarcerated at the Bennington County Jail, escaped and drove a stolen truck to Granville, NY. Based on a photograph of Frotten and a report that the stolen truck had been located in Granville, Franzoni traveled there, accidentally came upon the suspect, and took him into custody. Sheriff and Mrs. Franzoni operated the Beacon Restaurant that they had built c.1947 near the Rutland Airport. Franzoni was also co-founder and treasurer of the Pico Raceway which was constructed on Route 7 on the site where the General Electric plant is now located. He was a member of the Royal Order of the Moose, Elks Club, Italian Aid Society, and Police Benevolent Association. He died of a heart attack in Rutland, VT on 1 May 1955 at the age of 50.

J. Fred Carbine (1905-1977) was born in Rutland, VT on 23 June 1905. He worked for the Rutland Herald in 1928 as a route delivery driver, transferred to the News Room in 1943, and became Sports Editor and resident expert on local political matters. He served three terms on the Board of Aldermen and was Board President from 1945 to 1946. In March 1946 Mayor Temple named Carbine as Police Chief to fill a vacancy created when Chief Harold Potter resigned. Carbine was very vigorous as Chief and vigilant in watching what his officers were doing. He had teams crack down on suspected houses of ill repute. His patrolmen never knew where he might show up to see if they were patrolling in their designated area. Although Carbine's men often grumbled about it at times, they did what their chief told them. Upon

the death of Sheriff Geno Franzoni in 1955, Carbine was named by Gov. Joseph Johnson to fill out the term. When first appointed as Sheriff, Carbine had custodial supervision of the County Jail on Center Street. On one occasion Sheriff Carbine was beaten unconscious by an escapee but recovered in a few days and went across country to bring the prisoner back to jail. Carbine was a member of the New England Police Chiefs Association and President of the Vermont Police Association. He was President of the Vermont Sheriff's Association from 1966 to 1968. The county jails were turned over to control of the state as regional correctional centers in 1969. Sheriff Carbine then moved his office from the old Rutland County Jail on Center Street up the hill to the Rutland County Courthouse. He made a special effort to accommodate attorneys by providing competent civil process serving, one of his trademarks. He called for an increase in the patrol duties of deputy sheriffs and for modernizing the police equipment available to deputies. He sponsored several schools for police officers and deputies of the county in conjunction with the FBI. Sheriff Carbine resigned in April 1976 due to ill health and died 12 August 1977 at the age of 72.

Lee D. Jones (1929-) was appointed Sheriff of Rutland County by Governor Thomas Salmon on 8 July 1976 and held that position for 20 years until retiring on 30 June 1996. He was a career law enforcement officer, having previously served as a Vermont State Trooper from 1954 to 1975. Sheriff Jones worked to improve and modernize the department beginning with a reduction in Special Deputies from 120 to 45 men and women. This resulted in more efficient training and a more dedicated work force. New in-service training methods were held every year and included accident investigation, report and affidavit writing, use of radio and radar equipment and firearms training. Sheriff Jones also set up a payroll system in 1977.

Robert J. Elrick (1962-) was appointed as Rutland County Sheriff to replace Lee Jones by Governor Howard Dean on 21 June 1996. Elrick, 33, had been Assistant Director at the Vermont Police Academy in Pittsford. He knew the county well and had developed valuable relationships in the community. He challenged the department's supervisors to cross-train deputies so they could deal with any situation that might arise. After serving as Sheriff for eight years Elrick returned to the Vermont Police Academy as Director.

Stephen P. Benard, (1959-) a ten-year veteran with the Ludlow Police Department, who had 14 years service with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department, became the new Rutland County Sheriff.



1979 Rutland County Sheriff's Deputies. (l to r) Seated: Robert McNulty Sr., Lillian Pitts, Harold Merritt, Sheriff Lee Jones, Richard Fifield, Joyce Fifield, Jack Rogers. Standing: Thomas Swahn, Robert McNulty Jr., Richard Hill, John Flory, Kevin Geno, Paul Cummings, Tim Jones, Royal Biathrow, John Harrison



1985 Rutland County Sheriff's Deputies (l to r) Paul Huntley, Joyce Fifield, Bruce Rodd, Doug Barrett, Paul Ward, Daniel Boyce, Lyle Hadley, Francis Howland, Sharon Underwood, Bruce Atwood, Dick Hill, Tim Solari, Melissa Conway, Laurie Krupp, Royal Biathrow, Dick Benard, John Flory, Ray Ward, Ken Haviland.

A sheriff's department is established in each of the 14 counties in Vermont. It consists of the sheriff, elected for a four year term, and such deputy sheriffs as may be appointed by the sheriff. The Rutland County Sheriff's Department has jurisdiction over 945 square miles of urban and rural areas. The department currently has 19 full time and 16 part time deputies including three female certified deputies: Bonnie Elrick, Sheena Fisher and Carolyn Fredette. The Department is under contract to provide patrol services to Chittenden, Clarendon, Hubbardton, Pittsfield, Proctor, Rutland Town, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, Wallingford and West Rutland. Several businesses also utilize RCSD services including Southern Vermont Regional Airport, Carris Reels, CVPS, Devil's Bowl Speedway, Diamond Run Mall, GE, Green Mountain National Forest, HF Credit Union, Killington LTD, North Country Properties, and area schools. During 2006 these services amounted to 52,000 man-hours at a cost of \$1.3 million. Deputies also respond to calls for domestic violence, assaults, breaking & entering, larceny, intoxication, shoplifting, automobile accidents, license checks, traffic violations, funeral escorts, court bailiff, transports, civil process, and more. All police officers in Vermont (municipal, county and state) must be certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council at the Police Academy in Pittsford, VT. New part time recruits must attend a 58-hour basic course at the Academy and 30 hours of in-service training per year. Full time deputies must also complete a full time basic course of 16 weeks and an additional 25 hours of in-service training per year. RCSD currently has 20 cruisers, two snowmobiles and one motorcycle. Standard weapon carried is a 40 cal. Glock Model 23. Shifts are generally five to six days on and two days off.

RUTLAND COUNTY SHERIFFS - 1781 TO 2007

Abraham Ives	1781-1785
Jonathan Bell	1785-1802
Arunah W. Hyde	1802-1809
Eleazer Flagg	1809-1812
Ralph Paige	1812-1813
Eustus Barker	1813, 1815-1818
Thomas Hooker	1814
William Fay	1817
Jonathan Dyke	1819-1831
Jacob Edgerton, Jr.	1831-1833
John A. Conant	1833-1835
Ira Parsons	1835-1841
Jacob Edgerton, Jr.	1841-1861

William M. Field	1861-1878
D. P. Peabody	1878-1910
Enos C. Fish	1910-1919
Henry R. Adams	1919-1937
Roy H. Leonard	1937-1943
Geno N. Franzoni	1943-1955
J. Fred Carbine	1955-1976
Lee Jones	1976-1996
R. J. Elrick	1996-2004
Stephen P. Benard	2004-

SOME RUTLAND COUNTY SHERIFFS



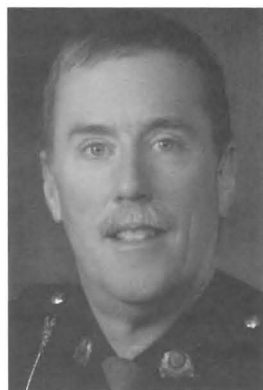
CINDY TAYLOR PATCH

Roy H. Leonard
1937 – 1943



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

Lee D. Jones
1976 – 1996



RUTLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Stephen P. Benard
2004 – Present

Rutland City Police Department (1892-2007)

By Paul J. Crossman, Jr.

The original township of Rutland was chartered on 7 September 1761; it remained as such for over a century until 19 November 1892 when the Vermont Legislature set off the east village as the City of Rutland. In the Rutland Village Annual Report for the year ending 1 March 1891 Chief of Police M. Hussey stated that the village police force consisted of 11 commissioned officers, of whom eight were special policemen, and three were assigned for regular night duty. Lodgings were furnished for 42 poor persons. Doors to 16 establishments were found unlocked. A few disturbances were quelled without making arrests. Arrests for the year were as follows:

Intoxication 68

Selling Liquor 42

Keeping with intent (liquor) 38

Furnishing liquor 19

Breach of the peace 16

Larceny 7

Burglary 4

Horse stealing 1

Assault on officer 1

Tramps committed to House of Correction 8



*Village of Rutland Police Department just prior to 19 November 1892.
Note Rutland Village Hall to right and Bardwell House in background.*

In 1893, the first year under the new Rutland City government, Chief Daniel Peabody reported very few incidents of breaking and entering, burglary or larceny. Cases reported and investigated were usually traced to boys who were later arrested and prosecuted. Chief Peabody attributed the low crime rate to a matter of good luck. The faithfulness and vigilance of the officers also had a tendency to prevent commission of these crimes. In 1896 Chief Thomas Elworth requested the addition of two more men to the existing six-man police force. He also recommended a long distance telephone for police headquarters.

In 1897 Chief Nathaniel Stearns reduced the police force from six to three patrolmen. He cited fewer crimes than in former years, resulting in a \$2500 per year reduction in police department expense. Chief Stearns believed that three patrolmen and 29 special patrolmen

throughout the city would be sufficient protection to lives and property. However, with population growth and crime on the increase it became necessary to add more men to the force. By 1920 there were seven sworn full time officers, and by the mid-1970s this number had increased to 40.

In 1900 Chief of Police Edward Bowman reminded citizens that "the police officer is the guardian of their homes and of the peace of society. He is awake while they are asleep. He watches while they rest. For their safety he goes into places where lurk danger and death." During that year 132 males and two females were arrested on charges of intoxication, breach of peace, selling and keeping (liquor), petit larceny, grand larceny, tramping, assault, lewdness, and practicing medicine without a license. Arrests were recorded by hand in a logbook as shown in the following sample:

November 1918

- Nov 9 S. P. Webber, born Sherburne. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.00 Costs \$6.60. 20 hours \$1.00. 2 meals 60 cents. Paid.
- Nov 14 John A. Welsh, born Rutland. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.50 Costs \$5.50. 1 meal 30 cents. 15 hours 75 cents. Hack, Louis Elkey 50 cents. Paid.
- Nov 14 Arthur J. Mahon, born Plymouth. Charge intoxication first offense. Fine \$5.00 Costs \$6.00. 15 hours 75 cents. 1 meal 30 cents. Assistant Harold Bennett, 50 cents. Paid.
- Nov 21 Philip Whaley, born Troy, N.Y. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.00 Costs \$5.15. 1 meal 30 cents. 10 hours 50 cents. Hack, New Haddad 50 cents. Committed for 15 days.

Entries from Rutland City Police Department Log Book, November 1918:

9 Nov: SP Webber, born Sherburne. Charge intoxication, first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.00. Costs \$6.60. 20 hours \$1.00. 2 meals 60 cents. Paid

14 Nov: John A Welsh, born Rutland. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.50. Costs \$5.50. One meal 30 cents. 15 Hours 75 cents. Hack, Louis Elkey, 50 cents. Paid

14 Nov: Arthur J Mahon born Plymouth. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea guilty. Fine \$5.00. Costs \$6.00. 15 Hours 75 cents. One meal 30 cents. Assistance Harold Gennette, 50 cents. Paid.

21 Nov: Philip Whalen born Troy, NY. Charge intoxication first offense. Plea Guilty. Fine \$5.00. Costs \$5.95. One Meal 30 cents. 10 hours 50 cents. Hack, Nan Haddad 50 cents. Committed for 15 days.

SOME RUTLAND CHIEFS OF POLICE



RUTLAND CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

*John P. Clifford
Chief 1906*



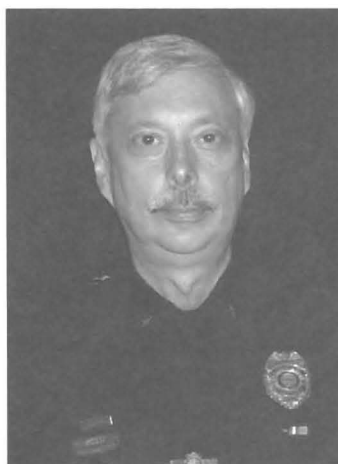
PATTY CARBINE MARCEAU

*J. Fred Carbine
Chief 1946-1954*



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

*Charles E. Spoon
Chief 1980-1985*



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

*Anthony L. Bossi
Chief 1998 - Present*

CHIEFS OF POLICE – CITY OF RUTLAND (1892 – 2007)

Daniel P. Peabody	1892-1893
Thomas C. Elworth	1894-1896, 1909-1912
Nathaniel S. Stearns	1897-1899
Edward Bowman	1900
John W. Blanchard	1901
Edwin H. Lawson	1902-1904, 1922-1924
Walter P. Newton	1905
John P. Clifford	1906
Edward S. Whittaker	1907-1908
Jesse Young	1913-1914
Bert S. Hyland	1915-1921
Roy H. Leonard	1925-1934
William P. Fox	1935-1941
Harold S. Potter	1942-1945
J. Fred Carbine	1946-1954
John L. Dinn	1955-1965
Stuart D. Jenne	1966-1978
Charles E. Spoon	1979-1985
Paul R. Benson	1986-1988
Robert R. Holmes	1989-1997
Anthony L. Bossi	1998-

REGULAR OFFICERS (1893-1920) FIRST YEAR OF SERVICE

Eugene Alexander	1893
Thomas C. Elworth	1893
Edward M. Knox	1893
Joseph Mecier	1893
Charles N. Chamberlain	1894
J. Ormsby Hewitt	1895
John P. Clifford	1896
Bernard M. Hughes	1896
John F. Smith	1896
John W. Blanchard	1898
John Tauguay	1901
Jeremiah McDonough	1902
Ezra Deragon	1904
Walter P. Newton	1904
Orrin S. Packard	1905
Timothy Halpin	1906
Patrick H. Conlin	1907

William H. Peryea	1907
John J. Barrett	1908
Charles F. Lorette	1909
Silas C. Warren	1909
John A. Worthen	1909
Timothy Dwyer	1910
Jesse Young	1911
Martin Kennedy	1914
Bert A. Barrett	1915
Thomas C. Canty	1919
Patrick A. Mangan	1920

RUTLAND CITY POLICE APPOINTMENTS (1921-1957)

NAME	APPOINTMENT DATE
Bert T. Murphy	4 Jul 1921
Quincy M. Baker	2 Apr 1923
Clayton E. Peer	15 Oct 1923
Daniel J. Brown	13 Aug 1928
John L. Dinn (Chief)	2 Oct 1931
Raymond R. Mooney (Capt)	16 Aug 1937
Ralph Devino	18 Jul 1938
Dennis J. Noonan	20 Apr 1942
Charles F. Callahan (Sgt)	1 Feb 1943
Martin J. Carmody	1 Feb 1943
Reginald Noe	1 Feb 1943
Francis A. Ryan	1 Feb 1943
Edmond W. Small	1 Feb 1943
J. Fred Carbine (Chief)	8 Mar 1946
Emmett J. Fleming	3 Apr 1946
Charles J. Fox	3 Apr 1946
Samuel C. Gorruso	3 Apr 1946
James E. Hesse	3 Apr 1946
William F. Murphy	3 Apr 1946
Alva C. Wener	3 Apr 1946
Albert B. Grazini	4 Dec 1946
Neville J. Barrett	17 Jul 1947
Gerald Butterfly	24 Aug 1947
Charles E. Spoon	24 Aug 1947
Bernard A. McDonough	8 Aug 1948
Ward J. Jones	18 Aug 1948
Robert F. Ballou	3 Aug 1952
N. A. Barone	9 Jan 1953

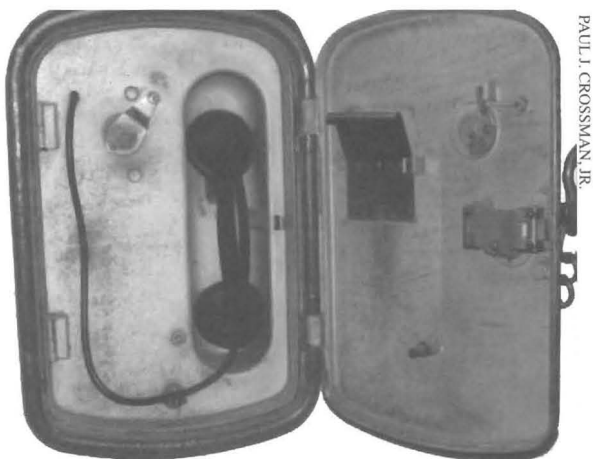
G. G. Coltey
 J. W. Densmore
 D. J. McCarthy
 Ralph P. Muscatello
 E. L. Roussil
 D. J. Stanowski
 E. J. Stebbins
 R. E. Cameron
 G. J. Packard, Jr

9 Dec 1953
 9 Dec 1953
 9 Dec 1953
 30 Sep 1955
 30 Sep 1955
 14 Jul 1956
 14 Jul 1956
 12 Apr 1957
 12 Apr 1957

GAMEWELL POLICE PATROL BOX



*Police Patrol Box
 (external view)*



*Police Patrol Box
 (internal view)*

The *Gamewell* Police Patrol Box was used to enable communication between foot patrolmen and the Police Station. In 1911 there were six watchman clock/telephone stations like the one shown above, purchased by the city at a cost of \$257 each, and strategically located throughout the downtown area. All call boxes were connected to a central telephone exchange at the police station. A watchman clock would thereby keep a record of the patrolman's movements while on duty. The system enabled the officer in charge at the police station to summon patrolmen at any time and prompt them to immediately call the police station by means of red lights at the various call boxes. Call boxes were located at (1) The foot of Center Street, (2) The corner of Pine and West Streets, (3) The corner of Willow and Edson Streets, (4) The southwest corner of Center and Wales Streets, (5) The corner of West and Church Streets and (6) The corner of Madison Street and Strongs Avenue. By 1915 new clocks had been added at the rear of H.

A. Sawyer & Company at 59 Merchants Row, on the side of the Playhouse on Center Street, at the rear of Badlam's Grocery at 41 Center Street, at the rear of the Opera House on Merchants Row, at the rear of the Combination Store at Willow and Edson Streets and at the Freight Depot on Madison Street. Clocks were wound once per hour. A foot patrolman's location while on duty was known and recorded on an hourly basis as he called in from his beat.



RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Police chief Roy Leonard (second from the right) and officer Clayton E. Peer are seated at the signal receiver at police headquarters in January 1930. Officers standing (left to right) are Daniel Brown and Patrick Mangan.

Department vehicles have ranged from horse and buggy in 1892 to the modern day Ford Crown Victoria Sedan. In 1892 the city was paying for hack (rented carriage) service. Service was poor in the winter months, especially after 8:30 PM. In order to respond to a citizen call for assistance two patrolmen would leave the station and go to a stable to help hitch up horses for a hack. The department used a motorcycle with sidecar in 1922 that reached its limit three years later. Officer Quincy Baker was

the first operator. A new Indian motorcycle was later purchased in 1929 and operated by Warren Battles. A one and a half ton patrol wagon, referred to as the "Paddy Wagon" or "Black Maria", was furnished to the police department in 1926. This vehicle was first driven by Quincy Baker, and was used to pick up offenders and transport them to the Rutland County Jail. In 1932 the vehicle was dispatched 427 times. During the thirties the department also purchased a Ford V8 "prowl" car, Ford Coach, 1939 Oldsmobile Sedan and a GMC Suburban.



RUTLAND CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rutland City police paddy wagon "Black Maria", circa 1926, with driver Quincy Baker standing. Warren Battles is on motorcycle.

There were many long service members of the Rutland City Police Department who were well known and respected in the community. Here are just a few:

Quincy Baker (1894-1960) was a veteran police officer, beginning service as a special policeman in May 1922 and retiring after 37 years service. He served under eight chiefs and held the longest record of any on the force. In 1923 the men worked 12 hours a day and were paid \$22.50 per week. Back then officers walked the beat down Pine St. to School St., Meadow St., West St., Baxter St., and State St. back to Merchants Row. Officers had to purchase their own uniforms that buttoned up to the collar and their own guns. The city would only provide an overcoat and cap. Prior to radio communication between the station and cruisers, a red light would be hung in the station window to signal officers passing by if they were needed.

Clayton Peer (1899-1973) was another patrolman with a long service record. He served continuously for 44 years from 1923 to 1967. He was one of the youngest men (age 24) on the local police force and one of the oldest (age 68) when he retired. Former police chief John Dinn walked the beat with patrolman Peer many cold nights, and they participated together in many raids during the Prohibition era (1920-1933).

Raymond Mooney (1904-1965) was a city policeman for 28 years. He started with the department as a special policeman in 1937, was promoted to regular officer five months later, to Sergeant in 1947, and finally to Captain in 1955. In 1937 the department had 14 men, one squad car and a motorcycle. On Capt. Mooney's retirement, 1 May 1965, Police Chief Dinn said "He was a very good officer and he will be missed because of his loyalty and interest in the job", also that "he was a top-notch fellow and good to have along when there was trouble." Capt. Mooney suffered a stroke and was forced to resign. He died 14 Nov 1965 at age 61.

Samuel Gorruso (1915-1995) was a "fixture" in the local department for many years. A native of Italy, he was hired as a special police officer in 1943, appointed as a regular patrolman in 1946 and promoted to sergeant in 1958. He made use of his bilingual capabilities with the Italian sector. He left the department after a distinguished career of 37 years (1943-1980). In a *Rutland Herald* editorial Officer Gorruso was characterized as "an honor to his profession, his family and his community".

Charles E. Spoon (1921-) served in U.S. Marines and worked at Spoon's Service Station, 66 West Street, prior to becoming a police officer. He was appointed as a regular officer in 1947 by Chief J. Fred Carbine. During his 37 year tenure Spoon added three full time female officers and a canine unit to the department. Spoon served as Chief from 1980 to 1985. He was succeeded by acting chief Doug Williams.

In 1935 parking laws were decided by the Vermont Supreme Court to be null and void. This caused great inconvenience to visitors of Rutland. Parking meters were installed in 1947 and for the next eight years meter receipts totaled \$241,500. By 1960 Rutland had 854 parking meters.

In 1945 the Rutland City Police Department modernized their communication equipment with a two-way G.E. FM radio enabling headquarters and patrol cars to keep in touch with each other. All regular officers were third class licensed radio operators. Radios were used for police calls and information only. Station WBMI was owned and operated by Rutland Police Department on an assigned frequency of 39.1 MHz by authority of the FCC.

In 1950 a department-sponsored Police School supervised by FBI instructors was held in Rutland. A wide range of subjects was discussed including Laws of Arrest, Notetaking and Report Writing, Collection and Presentation of Evidence, Public Relations, Techniques and Mechanics of Arrest, Interviews and Confessions, Evidence and Testifying in Court.

A monument was erected at City Hall Park and dedicated by the Rutland Police Benevolent Association (PBA), President Neville Barrett presiding, on 22 Sep 1963 in honor of those who walked the final beat. By 2007 the names of 27 deceased officers had been inscribed on the monument. The purpose of the PBA is to assist members of the Rutland City Police Department and their families when sick or disabled, as well as families of the deceased members of the association. It is funded through membership contributions.



Police Benevolent Association monument dedication at City Park.

Craig Petrie has been the department's Animal Control Officer (ACO) since 5 March 1979. The ACO handles animal noise disturbances, animals at large, vicious dog incidents, animal bite reports, cruelty and

neglect situations, and injured animals. The department currently has two canines, "King Riley" and "King Luther". Christine (Wild) Gregario was the first full time female police officer hired by the Rutland City Police Department on 19 August 1979, followed by Linda (Jones) Elrick in 1981, Chris Kiefer-Cioffi in 1985, Terrell "TJ" Anderson in 1990 and Debra (Spafford) Perkins in 2002. "TJ" was assigned as the department's first Child Abuse and Family Violence Investigator in October 1994. She left the department in 2000 after ten years service and joined the Vermont Police Academy. Corporal Gregario retired in 2007 after 28 years service. The Rutland City Police Department now has 41 sworn full time officers and 11 full time civilian positions. A new Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD) was added in 1993. This system utilizes 16 work stations and is networked with 13 Vermont State Police barracks. CAD provides call tracking, 24/7 automated record access, direct report entry by officers; it also enhances police ability to track criminals, provide strategic data and generate statistical reports.

A five-member Police Commission was established in 1989 to minimize political influence on the Police Department and make the department more community-oriented. The police commission appoints a chief of police for a term not to exceed five years. The five commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and ratified by the Board of Aldermen for three-year staggered terms. This Commission, presently chaired by R. Richard Smith, meets monthly to oversee the department.

The department currently has one Harley-Davidson motorcycle and a fleet of 15 cruisers. Cruisers are equipped with radar guns, digital video cameras and on-board computers. Twenty-year-old communication equipment was replaced, and .38 caliber revolvers were replaced with 9mm semi-automatic weapons. In 1992 a State Highway Assistance grant funded a new "Datamaster" infrared breath analyzer for evidentiary use in DUI cases.

"Los Solidos" gang activity plagued Rutland in 1995 and 1996. There were more than 50 gang members and more than 100 local youth followers. Through combined efforts of education, public awareness and enforcement, several gang members were sent back to the Springfield/Holyoke, MA area and others left on their own.

The Rutland City Police Department was located within City Hall, 52 Washington Street, for 108 years except for a three month refurbishment phase in late 1990 when temporary quarters were set up at the Rutland Plaza. For several years the department used holding cells at City Hall to lodge suspects arrested and held

pending their arraignment in City Court. Three cells in the basement and three more on the first floor, each measuring five feet by seven feet with a two foot by six foot iron door and a single bunk bed, were used for men. Two slightly larger cells on the first floor accommodated female prisoners.

In March 1999 voters approved a bond issue for a new police station at 108 Wales Street. In June 2000 the Rutland City Police Department moved into its new home. Three months later in September 2000 the Rutland County Sheriff's Department moved from 79 Center Street into the second floor office space at 108 Wales Street.



PAUL J. CROSSMAN, JR.

The Rutland City Police Department and the Rutland County Sheriff's Department are now both located at 108 Wales Street in this building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

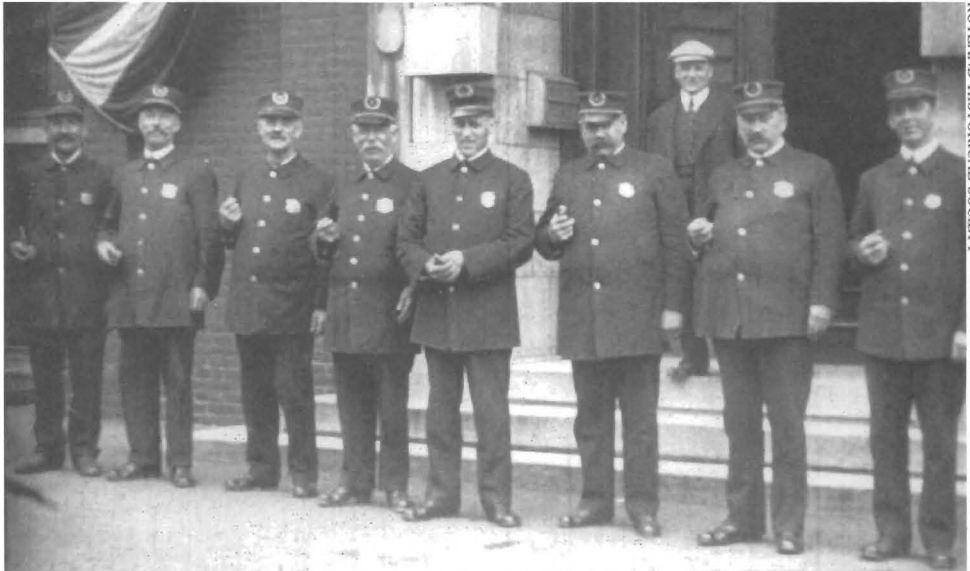
- Anderson, Terrell "TJ", VCJTC Training & Curriculum Development
Coordinator
- Ballou, Robert, retired Police Officer, RPD
- Barrett, Neville, retired Police Officer, RPD
- Benard, Stephen, Sheriff, Rutland County Sheriff's Department
- Bossi, Anthony, Chief, Rutland City Police Department
- Densmore, James, retired Police Officer, RPD
- Elrick, RJ, Executive Director, VT Criminal Justice Training Council
- Fox, Charles, retired Police Officer, RPD
- Fredette, Carolyn, Rutland County Deputy Sheriff
- Gorruso, Samuel J, Sam's Good News (son of Officer Samuel C.
Gorruso)
- Guns & Weapons for Law Enforcement*
- Jones, Lee, retired Rutland County Sheriff
- Marceau, Patty Carbine
- McCarthy, Daniel, retired Police Officer, RPD
- Mooney, Raymond M (son of Officer Raymond R Mooney)
- Patch, Cindy Taylor, Training Coordinator, VT Criminal Justice
Training Council
- Patten, Judith, technical support
- Police*, April 2000
- Rutland County Records: Officers, Recognizances and Deputations,
Vols 701 & 702
- Rutland Herald*, 11 May 1965, 15 Nov 1965, 15 May 1995,
22 Jun 1996, 13 May 1957, 21 Jun 1960, 22 Jun 1996
- Sam's Good News*, 23 May 2007, 20 Jun 2007
- Spoon, Charles, retired Chief, RPD
- The History of Rutland, Vermont, 1761-1861, Dawn D Hance
- The Vermont Bar Journal*, Summer 2005
- Tuttle, Timothy, Officer, Rutland City Police Department
- Vermont Statutes, Title 24, Chapter 5, Sect. 290
- Vermont Statutes, Title 24 Appendix, Chapter 9, Sect. 9-22.4

The Rutland City Police



VT POLICE ACADEMY, PITTSFORD, VT

Rutland City Police Department in 1912. (l to r) Front Row: John Barrett, Tom Elworth, Timothy Dwyer. Back Row: Pat Conlin, Cy Warren, Jesse Young.



RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The 1914 Rutland City police force poses in front of City Hall for a movie film. Names of the individuals are not known.

Force Through the Years



Pat Conlin directs traffic at the foot of Center Street in 1914 movie film. Note sign with "Go slow" and "Keep right" under the umbrella.



Rutland City Police Department in 1937. (l to r) Front Row: John Dinn, Fordyce Wisell, Charles Cassin, Charles Fox, Daniel Brown, William Vondette, John Morrissey. Back Row: Clayton Peer, Quincy Baker, Geno Franzoni, Ralph Devino, Ray Mooney, Burt Murphy, John Mangan.



John Mead of Rutland converses with two unidentified city patrolmen during Rutland Carnival and Fair Week in 1913.